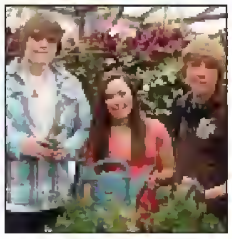
The Fort Erie Times
www.forterietimes.com
Saturday, November 26, 2011

Red Ribbon in Ridgeway

Exhibit and Sale hosted by Fort Erie Arts Council

05



Project Green Falcon

Greenhouse initiative moves on to third round

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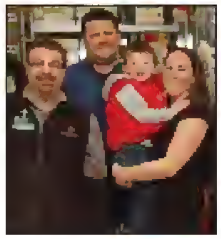

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100 years of worship

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Harold Hampel, left, Maria Featherston and Eliza Trider are getting ready for St. Luke's Lutheran Church's 100-year anniversary service on Sunday at 11 a.m. In February 2009, the original church was devastated in a fire but the congregation rebuilt and dedicated its new building in May 2009, just in time for this weekend's milestone ceremony. Read the whole story on page 3.

Bay Beach is back

Site plan to be considered by council on Dec. 5

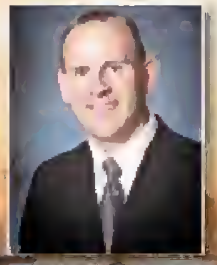
Kris Dubé
The Times

The contentious Bay Beach issue has been buried under the sand for the last little while, but it will be back onshore very soon.

At Monday night's council-in-committee meeting, local politicians voted in favour of a report that approved council moving ahead with a closed session meeting to discuss legal matters pertaining to the controversial 12-storey condo project at Greater Fort Erie's famous waterfront destination for summer visitors and locals alike.

On Nov. 30, a meeting will be held behind closed doors to discuss advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege related to the Crystal Beach Gateway Project, a partnership between the Town of Fort Erie and Burlington-based developer the Molinaro Group.

See Page 2



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Only legal talk in closed session

From Page 1

This meeting will be held to discuss only legal matters and will be a segue into the open session meeting on Dec. 5 where council will consider site plan approvals for the project.

Ward 5 Coun. Don Lubberts, who has been strongly opposed to the project, asked if discussion from the closed session meeting on Nov. 30 will carry over into the dialogue the following Monday.

"I'm concerned that any discussion we have on Wednesday, we won't be able to discuss on Dec. 5," said Lubberts.

He then asked if questions that are general in nature can be a part of the conversation in closed session, or if council would need to reconvene in open session if that was the direction the discussion ends up taking.

Acting chief administrative officer Ron Tripp said it is expected that the Nov. 30 closed session meeting will be a prequel to the lengthy debate expected on the site plan approval.

"The intent on Wednesday is to deal with all the legal aspects of the agreement, so we can have a full discussion about everything on Monday night," said Tripp.

Critics of the proposed development that was approved by the previous term of council, opine that it will restrict the amount of public access and that it doesn't fit into the current fabric of Crystal Beach.

In the plans, it is laid out that the municipality will retain ownership of the 1000-foot public beach.

The condominium building will sit on the non-beach portion of the property and will include a municipal public facility, food and drink facilities for beach users, public washrooms and change rooms, a water-view restaurant and approximately 87 condo units above the first floor.

There will be a 100-foot wide public open space next to the municipal public facility, providing an extra recreation area, access to the beach and views of Lake Erie from Erie Road.

Also a part of the plans, is a 100-foot open air plaza next to the municipal public building, which will be fully accessible to the public and available for outdoor events like concerts and festivals.

The Town will keep ownership of the parking lots on the north side of Erie Road, with improvements resulting in approximately 126 spaces.

There will be improvements to Erie Road, including street landscaping, pedestrian crossings, and a a "gateway destination tower" that will signify arrival to the beach.

Parking for the condominium building will be located entirely underground, which town staff says will allow for a more open landscaped design at ground level.

-Read the whole story at www.forterietimes.com

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Have you HEARD?
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Registered by CASLTO Audiologist

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St. Luke's celebrates milestone

Kris Dubé
The Times

St Luke's Lutheran Church has been a part of the local community for the last 100 years, but the last two have been perhaps the toughest for the small congregation in Ridgeway.

On Sunday, the Lutheran place of worship will celebrate its centennial milestone at 11 p.m. and are inviting church members and the general public to join this joyous event.

Reflecting on St Luke's history, chair of the church's council Maria Featherston, said the main focus of the service on Sunday will be to tribute the many families that have been a part of the congregation for the last century.

"It's the generations we're really celebrating," she said.

In Feb. 2009 the "little blue church" on Prospect Point Road in Ridgeway was destroyed by a brutal fire on a cold winter night.

The church was rebuilt and a dedication ceremony to showcase the new one was held back in May of this year.

Perhaps one of the most special items that remains part of the church is a Good Shepherd Painting that decorated a wall in the former building.

By the grace of God, the painting still remains in good condition as the fire from two years ago seemed to work around it, as it still hangs proudly in the body of the new church.

"There's hardly any harm to it, other than the top was scorched a little bit," said Harold Hampel, chair of the church's anniversary committee who has been a member of the congregation since he was born 81 years ago.

After the fire, offers of amalgamation with other local churches were brought forward, but Featherston said the council wanted to do its best to remain as one.

"We're a family and we wanted to stay together," she said.

Eliza Taylor, an 85-year-old member of St. Luke's became emotional when she was asked about what it means to her, being able to celebrate the 100th anniversary of her place of worship.

"It's a wonderful feeling because it's always been my church. This is my home," she said when meeting with the Times this week.

She reflected on her time as a student in Sunday School and later an instructor for the church's youth. She was a part of the Ladies Aid, a group of women who organized a variety of functions. She also raised her three children as proud members of St. Luke's.

"We had wonderful times here," said Trider.

Currently, St. Luke's serves 180 members throughout over 70 families.

Harold Hampel says that number grows smaller as young family members head out of town for their post secondary educations, but it brought him back to a time when Sunday service was like a family gathering and everyone was in attendance.

His parents joined in 1922 before having any children and he is glad to have been able to build on what they started for his family.

"Eighty years after that, you could find up to 22 of us every Sunday," he said with a chuckle.

Another memory Hampel will always keep with him are the theatrical productions the church used to host at the Oddfellow's Hall on Ridge Road, which always involved an oyster stew supper.

Featherston also wanted to express gratitude on behalf of the local church to the community of Ridgeway.

Over the years, the congregation has helped serve a number of causes such as Meals on Wheels, different food banks and even a sister church in El Salvador.

"We've held a lot of events in support of people in need," she said.

She expects this will continue for many years.

"We look forward not only to ministering to our own congregation but also being of service to the community at large," said Featherston.

A luncheon will be held after the service on Sunday, expected to start shortly after 12 p.m. A donation of $15 will be required for the luncheon.

St. Nick's Shopping Day

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

St. Paul's Anglican Church is once again inviting the local community out to its St. Nick's Shopping Day on Sat. Dec. 3 where young shoppers can pick something out to put under the tree at a highly discounted price for their family members. It starts at 9 a.m. and wraps up at 2:30 p.m. Ten per cent of the proceeds will benefit Community Outreach Program Erie. Reverend Mark Gladding and Cameron the Cat, Sandy Carson, Shirley Athoe, Carol McGlaughlin and Judy Adams were at the church on Monday setting up.

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School closures an 'option on the table'

Kris Dubé
The Times

The purpose of the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN)'s accommodation review is to make sure local children are receiving the quality of education they deserve, says trustee Dave Schaubel.

A series of public meetings have been held over the last two months, to gather input from parents on what they feel is the best solution for their children.

Being considered at the moment is the closure of Rose Seaton Public School and Fort Erie Elementary School, moving students under one roof at General Vanier Public School with the addition of five new classrooms.

A final recommendation has not been voted on, but it is what the board of trustees is looking into, says Schaubel.

"That's the option we have on the table at the moment," he said.

The next public meeting will be held Wed. Nov. 30 at General Vanier at 6 p.m. and Schaubel hopes interested parents will come out and have their say.

"The reason for the meetings is to get feedback on the options we have, giving them the most detail we possibly can," said Schaubel.

According to the trustee, Fort Erie's representative at the public school board, says the accommodation review should not be seen as a way to cut corners, but to improve the integrity and quality of the education young learners have available to them.

"It's about programming, more than anything else."

Dwindling attendance and underutilized facilities are the main problems being faced by the DSBN.

"We can't continue to have three schools housing enough students for one school," said Schaubel.

The DSBN trustee hopes the public will keep an open and positive attitude when this decision is being considered and realize the review's purpose is to provide a better learning environment and more opportunities for local children.

"It's all about the students... that's in my heart and that's why I'm a trustee," said Schaubel.

Wednesday's event will be the fourth of five public meetings with the final one being held on Jan. 25.

Public input can also be submitted through the DSBN's website, www.dsbn.org. Click on the link to the accommodation review after getting to the home page.

Schaubel said a final recommendation should be reached by the board in early 2012.

This is the first phase of the review. The second will examine schools in St. Catharines and the third will look at high schools within the board.

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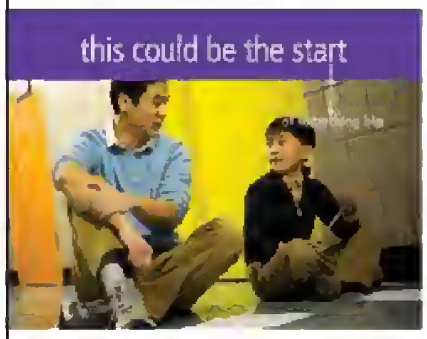

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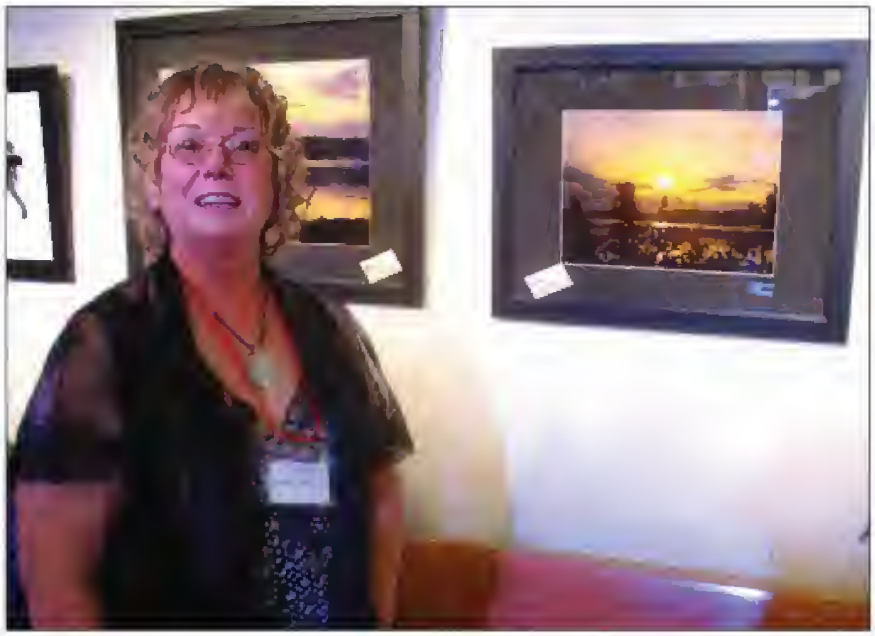
Creativity flows at Red Ribbon

SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Elizabeth Mindorff posing with some of her water- colour artwork at last weekend's Red Ribbon Art Exhibit and Sale, hosted by the Fort Erie Arts Council.



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Lorraine Pichette, a local photographer who had some of her creative work on display at the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts last weekend, during the Red Ribbon Art Exhibit and Sale.

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

With a passion for photography and a flair for creativity, Terry Babji and Lorraine Pichette were thrilled to be able to share their photography with other art lovers at the 7th annual Red Ribbon Art Exhibition.

They were two of more than 30 artists from the Niagara region displaying everything from photography to oil and water colour paintings and soapstone sculptures last weekend.

While art viewers enjoyed the displays, they were treated to the sultry jazz sounds of vocalist DK Ibomeka that flowed through the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts while dozens visited the 7th exhibition and sale last Saturday evening in Ridgeway.

With a glass of wine in hand, Babji explained photography is a passion of his which began at a very young age.

"When I was about seven or eight years-old I began playing with cameras and I haven't stopped ever since."

Babji says he even had his own dark room where he developed his own photos as a teenager.

The photographer says he looks for new ways to display his work. Something Babji has just started this year is printing his photographs on canvas, which he says is a more interesting way to display his work because his real-life photos of landscapes look more like paintings.

Babji says he enjoyed being part of the evening and a growing community of artists in Fort Erie.

"There have been a lot of viewers and a lot of artists. It's just been great to have my work showcased here at the Sanctuary."

If there is one thing he has learned over the years, Babji says he doesn't need a fancy camera to get the best image—being the best photography means using all of the skills and experience an artist has behind the camera, says Babji. "The best camera is the one you have with you."

Pichette has had an interest in photography for most of her life, but she says she began taking her craft more seriously over the past ten years.

Like Babji, Pichette is also interested in landscape photography—but more specifically she enjoys photographing sunrises and sun sets because of the beautiful lighting and the chance to capture something different every time.

"Each time I take a photograph, it's never the same. It could be the way the light moves, or the way things change so quickly during those times of the day."

Pichette, who has been taking part in the Red Ribbon Exhibition for the past five years say it's important for these types of events to take place in the community.

"Young people need to be exposed to local art," says Pichette. "What's nice about the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts is that "you don't need to go to places like Toronto or Montreal to experience art."

Elizabeth Mindorff was another artist who took part in the annual event and she says she was thrilled to be a part of the exhibition because it was an opportunity to share her work.

The artist has been painting water colours for most of her life and she says it's a medium she enjoys working in even though it can be a long and difficult three to four week process to finish one painting.

Mindorff says she enjoys capturing the beauty of flowers and plants—it's something she likes to paint because she has always had an interest in gardening.

She took a break from painting to raise her big family of seven boys and four girls, but what drew Mindorff back to the medium was the chance to express herself.

"Painting is a way of expression and it allows you to say something. Art is important and it's part of me. When you have children like I did, sometimes you lose part of that identity. I got it back again when I started painting."

The event is hosted by the Fort Erie Arts Council.

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opinion page

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our editorial

Get involved with 1812 bicentennial

To some people, local history might seem boring and unimportant because it has nothing to do with their everyday life.

Wrong.

The War of 1812 bicentennial is approaching quicker than you know it and the community really needs to get on board for the celebration that will be drawing massive national and international attention.

The volunteer committee formed to plan a series of events in 2012 has been working diligently to make sure everything goes off without a hitch and it needs our support.

After reading the story on page 11 by Times reporter Sarah Ferguson, you will see comments from the committee, expressing its need for more involvement.

Please don't ignore it and contact them if you are able and willing to participate in some way.

A grand parade is perhaps the biggest event that will be a part of the celebration and by the sound of it, saying it's going to be big would be a severe understatement.

This is an extremely relevant event that pinpoints our local history, so let's hope the community gets a better understanding of this and finds a way to pitch in.

-Kris Dubé

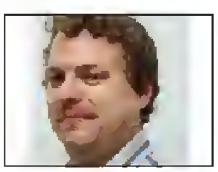
Do You Remember?

This is a Do You Remember first.

We heard from all of the people in last week's picture! Our thanks to, from left to right, Rose (Collie) Matthews, Jacqueline Torosian and Rita Boutin Hornby, Thanks as well to Vicki Cox and Becky Porter for calling in to identify these ladies from the Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE). These ladies auxiliary members were displaying items at Mrs. Torosian's home for the 1972 FOE Christmas bazaar.

This week's photo shows three people, a football and a cheque with the names Tim Kura and Mary Drury on the back along with the date Nov. 17, 1976. Please call if you know anything more about this photo. Our phone number is 905-894-5322 and our e-mail is museum@forterie.on.ca.

Editor congratulates local church on milestone



Kris Dubé
Editor's Notebook

Anyone who knows me, would agree that I am not exactly the most religious person they are acquainted with.

But pretty much every time St. Luke's Lutheran Church is in the news, I'm compelled to share an opinion.

This Sunday, the small congregation in Ridgeway will be celebrating its 100 years of service to the community.

This is a milestone any organization or group should be proud of, but in this case, I find it to be more than special.

In February 2009, the "little blue church" on Prospect Point Road was destroyed by a raging fire that started around midnight on a cold winter evening.

I heard about the situation and travelled out to the scene to take photographs, something I'm required to do as a news person.

I'll never forget that night, not only because of how huge the flames were or how many stations responded to the call, but the emotions that were evident with bystanders, a lot of whom were dedicated members of the church.

I remember a woman crying "that's my church" over and over...she was clearly devastated by what was unfolding in front of her.

It was a sad day for the Ridgeway community, but since then the story has become a lot easier to handle.

The church has been rebuilt on the same piece of land and it is a beautiful building I've visited a number of times for work purposes.

Shortly after the fire almost three years ago, I wrote an editorial saying that anytime St. Luke's needed help from the Times, we would gladly be there.

This hasn't changed.

On Wednesday, I sat down with three members of the church to discuss this Sunday's 100-year anniversary service and it feels great to talk to everyone about such a positive story, when not so long ago we were talking about something completely different, without the feel-good tone the story you have already read on page three has attached to it.

I don't know what it is that warms me up every time I sit down with folks from St. Luke's, but I know I'm always glad to write about such a wonderful story and never hesitate to congratulate the church on its accomplishments, despite suffering such a devastation a few years ago.

The public is invited to the service being held tomorrow at 11 a.m. tomorrow and I encourage people to at least stop by for the luncheon, to tell the people of St. Luke's how proud the community is of all their hard work and dedication.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207 or send me an email at editorial@forterietimes.com.

opinion page

Horse and Pony Rescue doing great things in Ridgeway

Dear Editor,

It is likely that many residents of Fort Erie have heard of the unique horse refuge located in Crystal Beach. For those of you who haven't, you will find Last Chance Horse & Pony Rescue (LCHPR), a registered charity established in 2005, at the far end of Rebstock Road. But what may not be as well known is the special work that LCHPR really does. In my short time here as a volunteer, I have been so moved by the compassion, generosity and hope that make up this sanctuary.

The mandate of LCHPR is to rescue and rehabilitate injured, neglected, abused or unwanted horses and ponies, and eventually place many in adoptive homes. But I wasn't able to gauge this mission or the importance of it until I personally started working with the horses.

Take Hope, for example. She is a white Percheron who was acquired by LCHPR when the farm she was being held at was shut down by the SPCA. Hope was the last horse who was left alive at this farm.

She was nearing starvation and had been badly abused. She had scars all over her body, her tail had been cut off at the bone, and she only weighed 950 pounds (about half the weight of a healthy Percheron).

Following her rescue, the team at LCHPR nursed Hope back to health, treating her injuries, feeding her vitamins and nutritious food to help her put on weight, and rehabilitating her heart and spirit through personal contact.

Every one of the horses at LCHPR has his or her own story. For me, it has been so rewarding to learn these stories, connect with such sensitive and intelligent animals at a personal level, and help them in their journeys to trust humans again.

But this organization's work does not end here. LCHPR also engages disadvantaged children, children with disabilities and other young people.

Many of the horses are provided basic schooling so that they can work with people in a therapeutic context. For both the horses and children, the result is a special animal-human bond that is very mutually beneficial.

Sharon Allen, the founder of LCHPR, deserves special recognition for the passion, care and commitment she puts into her work at LCHPR every day.

What you will not find on their website is mention of the fact that Sharon will not turn an animal in need away – Boomer the donkey, Hercules the goat, and five rescued dogs who all live at the farm attest to this fact.

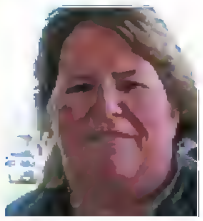
Sharon has delivered foals and hand-fed disabled animals. Every day, she does hard labour in the stable for hours on end for the sole purpose of giving animals in need a last chance at life.

To carry on their wonderful work, LCHPR needs continued support from our community. Please come out to the open house, on December 10 from 2-4, to meet the animals at LCHPR and learn their stories.

Nichole Bonner
Ridgeway

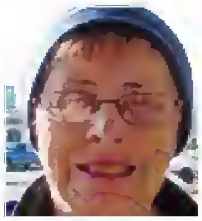
The TIMES Asks

Why is it important to shop locally during the holiday season?



Brenda Swartz

"We've got to support our local economy. It helps the merchants and by supporting them it helps us."

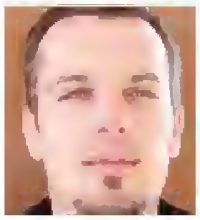


Elaine Benner

"It helps the local economy and it helps the people who live in the town."

Jason Selkirk

It's important to support local business so merchants can make money and keep their prices reasonable for us.



Marty Pullano

"Supporting local business is important because it helps the community grow."

What do you think?

E–mail: editorial@forterietimes.com or call 905–871–3100, ext. 207

Are schools eroding our historical identity?

Dear Editor,

Last Saturday's letter by Bruce MacPherson caught my interest regarding the seeming erosion of our recognition of national customs. I am a WWII, 31 year veteran who for the last 10 years has been a speaker, under the Dominion Institutes Memory Project, attending schools throughout the greater Niagara region and points beyond.

Using a Power Point program covering my war, North Africa, Sicily, Italy, Austria and Greece, has always attracted great interest and feedback from the students.

This year, surprisingly, there were no requests for my presentation.

Are our schools also being infected by this creeping erosion of our historical identity?

Failing to heed the lessons of our history may, indeed, see us repeating them.

Lawrence Fish
Warrant Officer
(retired) MMM, CD.

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RADIO EMERGENCY INFORMATION 91.7 FM - 105.7 FM - 610 AM

FORT ERIE ONTARIO
Our Focus: Your Future

(1)

MUNICIPAL ACT, 2001
SALE OF LANDS BY PUBLIC TENDER
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

TAKE NOTICE that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on December 13, 2011 at the Municipal Centre, Clerk's Department, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day at The Municipal Centre, Conference Room 1 at 3:05 p.m.

Description of Land(s)	Minimum Tender Amount $
RICHMOND AVE ES, PLAN 140 LOT 540 REG 0.11AC 40.00FR 117.00D, PIN 64467-0262(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 010 98302	$ 3,392.79
BAY WOODS NS, CON BFLE PT LOT 32 REG 0.33AC 100.00FR 145.00D, PIN 64177-0095(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 018 19400	$ 4,540.96
BAY WOODS NS, CON BFLE PT LOT 32 PCL 24 ESMT REG 0.33AC 100.00FR 145.00D, PIN 64177-0095(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 018 19500	$ 4,475.01
BAY WOODS NS, CON BFLE PT LOT 32 PCL 26 ESMT REG 0.33AC 100.46FR 145.00D, PIN 64177-0095(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 018 19600	$ 4,475.01
MAPLE AVE SS, PLAN 123 L 181 182 NP463 CORNER 0.22AC 79.83FR 120.40D, PIN 64196-0013 (LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 020 023 36200	$ 3,370.78
386 RIDGEWAY RD, PLAN 81 PT BLK AA NP544 REG 0.07AC 56.92F 55.58D, PIN 64186-0039(LT) ROLL NUMBER 2703 030 001 25500	$ 16,030.55

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a money order or of a bank draft or certified cheque by a bank or trust corporation payable to the municipality and representing at least 20 per cent of the tender amount.
Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchaser.
This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act.
The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and the relevant land transfer tax and HST if applicable.
The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.
For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender, contact:

GILLIAN CORNEY ~ Manager of Revenue & Collections
1 Municipal Centre Drive • Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6
T. (905) 871-1600 ext 2305 • F. (905) 871-9984
gcorney@forterie.on.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

(2)

COORDINATOR, DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS
(COMPETITION NO. 28-2011)

Reporting to the Manager, Development Approvals, you will provide engineering and technical support in the review/approval of new developments; coordinate the preparation/negotiation of Development, Site Plan and Subdivision Agreements, and; monitor/inspect site works/subject lands. Your diploma/degree in civil engineering is complemented by four years related experience.
Want to know more? Visit www.town.forterie.ca under Town Services, Employment Opportunities. The deadline for receiving applications is **5:00 p.m., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2011.**

FOCB appeal tabled

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

The Friends of Crystal Beach's (FOCB) appeal to have its bingo license was tabled during a meeting held at Town Hall on Thursday night.

The FOCB had its bingo license revoked by the Town's gaming commission because of content on its web site deemed to be political, the same web site that promotes community events hosted by the group.

Presentations from Bob Lund, president of FOCB and Russell Wilson, general manager of the Community Gaming and Development Corporation (CDGC), followed by a question and answer period went on for more than two hours before councillors Don Lubberts, Paul Collard and John Hill began deliberating in a closed discussion.

After more than 40 minutes, they agreed a review of the FOCB's eligibility to receive a bingo license was needed before a final decision could be made.

The councillors concluded the definition of eligibility for receiving a bingo license as set out by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) was unclear which is why they wanted a review completed before they made a final decision. The councillors also agreed to seek a legal opinion from the Town solicitor.

"The FOCB have been a stellar agency since I've been on board. From an administrative and corporation standpoint, I've had no concerns with the FOCB," Wilson told the committee.

He said the FOCB have been co-operative and they have continually filed their fiscal reports each month but the organization's license was suspended because the FOCB no longer met the criteria to receive the license as outlined in legislation set out by the AGCO.

"Organizations that are ineligible for lottery licensing include political lobby groups and those attempting to persuade the public to adopt a particular view on a political issue."

After an investigation of the FOCB was completed by the AGCO, Wilson said the non-profit organization was found to be in violation because "the group is swaying public opinion" about the Bay Beach issue.

He cited several photos on the FOCB's web site asking to keep Bay Beach lands public and a sentence on the web site which said the position of the FOCB is that "the Bay Beach Lands should remain in public hands and not be given to a private developer to build a 12-story condo tower."

Wilson said the AGCO has examples of newspaper clippings, minutes from the organization's meetings, and a $5,000 donation to the Fort Erie Waterfront Preservation Society (FEWPA) —an organization with a mandate to protect the waterfront — which show FOCB taking a political stand point on Bay Beach.

-Read the whole story at www.forterietimes.com

New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance
Open to the Public ~ Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.

Dj Music By Request

Entertainment Specialists
Family Style Dinner By Maria's Catering.
Advance Tickets
$75 pp (all inclusive) until Dec. 26th
After Dec. 26th Tickets are $80 pp

New Year's Celebration Menu

Antipasto Deluxe	Garden Salad
Bruschetta	Fried Seafood Mix
Seafood Salad	Fresh Fruit
Pasta Primavera	Tartufo
Pasta with Red Sauce	Rolls, Butter & Pizza Bread
Prime Rib au Juice	Coffee & Tea
Twice Baked Potatoes	
Vegetables	

Contact Vince at 905-871-3186 *or Nino at* 905-871-6886
Italo-Canadian Club • 1101 DiPietro Street • Fort Erie

Anzovino inquest on hold until December

Alison Langley
QMI Agency

The new lawyer representing Reilly Anzovino's family at an inquest that is looking at whether the downgrading of two Niagara emergency departments played a role in the death of the 18-year-old has been given two weeks to review mountains of material.

On Monday, presiding coroner Jack Stanborough agreed to postpone the inquest until Dec. 5 so lawyer Maureen Currie could properly prepare for the proceeding.

The inquest, which began Oct. 31 in Welland court, was expected to last four weeks and hear from more than 35 witnesses.

After five days and 10 witnesses, however, the proceedings came to a halt after Anzovino's parents, Tim Anzovino and Denise Kennedy, told the coroner their lawyer, former Fort Erie mayor Wayne Redekop, was no longer representing them.

Kennedy said the family is grateful to the coroner for allowing their new lawyer to review the material since the lawyers representing the other parties with standing at the inquest have had months to prepare.

Under the Coroner's Act, all parties who have standing at an inquest are entitled to have legal representation.

In addition to the Anzovino family, parties who have standing are the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (LHIN); Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS) and the Niagara Health System.

The inquest will resume Dec. 5 and continue on until Dec. 16.

The coroner said he will consider imposing time limits for cross-examination by counsel, if necessary, in order to expedite the process.

From there, there will be a several days for final submissions and closing arguments before the matter goes before the three-woman, two-man jury.

Stanborough said he expects the inquest will be completed before Christmas.

The Anzovino family is hoping the jury's recommendations will help to prevent other families from experiencing a similar tragedy.

"We don't get what we want back, we'll never get Reilly back," Kennedy said. "We're here for the other mothers and fathers and brothers and sisters and friends."

Her husband agreed.

"We're not here to blame anybody but, if something was done wrong, there can be an improvement in our health-care system," Tim Anzovino said.

Anzovino died following a two-vehicle crash on Boxing Day 2009 on an icy patch of Highway 3 between Fort Erie and Port Colborne.

The jury is examining whether the conversion of emergency rooms in Fort Erie and Port Colborne to urgent-care centres played a role in her death.

The ERs in Fort Erie and Port Colborne were downgraded to urgent-care centres a few months before the crash as part of a controversial restructuring plan by the Niagara Health System.

The inquest is also looking at the pre-hospital care she received, specifically her treatment by paramedics at the crash scene and in the ambulance.

While a date has been set, it is not yet known where the inquest will be held as the Welland court may not be available next month.

Stanborough said they will be looking at other venues, including the St. Catharines court house and Niagara Region headquarters in Thorold.

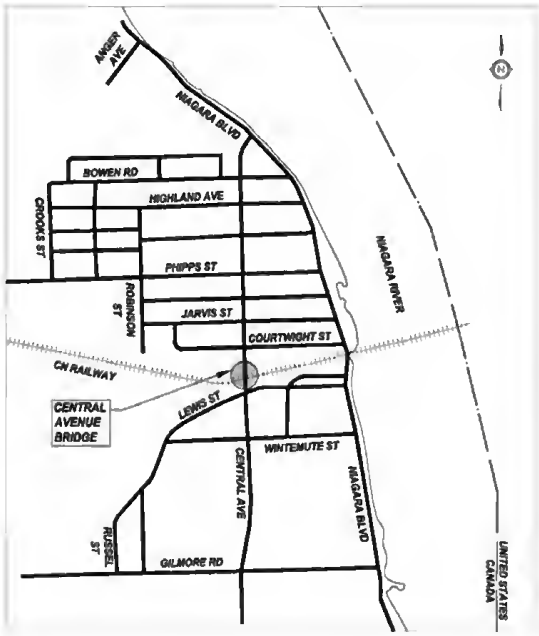
Niagara Region

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #1

Central Avenue Bridge (Structure No. 124205) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

The Study

Niagara Region is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the Central Avenue Bridge in the Town of Fort Erie (see map). The study is being conducted in accordance with the approved requirements for a Schedule "C" project as described in the Municipal Engineers Association's Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) document (October 2000, as amended in 2011). The Class EA will determine the need to rehabilitate, replace and or realign the Central Avenue Bridge including potential traffic detours during construction on other area roads and determine a preferred design concept in consultation with regulatory agencies and the public.



Public Information Centre #1

The first of two Public Information Centres (PIC) is being held to share study findings to date and seek comments on the following key information:

- Existing Conditions;
- Identification and screening of alternative bridge/rail crossing solutions and alternative traffic management solutions (including detours) during construction;
- Overview of each short-listed planning solution carried forward for further evaluation; and
- Evaluation criteria for short-listed planning solutions.

The PIC will be held on:

Date: **Thursday, December 1, 2011**
Time: **5:00 to 8:00 pm**
Location: **Fort Erie Elementary School**
474 Central Avenue, Fort Erie

You are invited to attend the PIC to review the displays and speak to members of the study team who will be in attendance to discuss the information, receive comments and answer questions. The PIC will be conducted in an open house (drop-in) format, with display material and study documentation available for review. We encourage you to attend to view the information and provide your input on decisions that will move the study forward.

If you have any questions or comments related to the study, wish to obtain more information or be added to the project mailing list, please contact either one of the following project team members.

Mr. Jason Marr, P.Eng
Senior Transportation Project Engineer
Niagara Region, Transportation Engineering
2201 St. David's Road
Thorold, Ontario L2V 4T7
Telephone: 905-685-4225 extension 3552
Fax: 905-685-0013
Email: jason.marr@niagararegion.ca

Mr. Karl Grueneis
Senior Environmental Planner
AECOM
3-30 Hannover Drive
St. Catharines, Ontario L2W 0A1
Telephone: 905-346-3732
Fax: 905-682-5812
Email: karl.grueneis@aecom.com

Additional information related to the project and consultation process may be obtained through the study website: **http://www.niagararegion.ca/living/roads/projects/central-ave/**. Comments and information regarding this project are being collected in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements.

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in the December 1, 2011 meeting, please contact the **Accessibility Advisory Coordinator** at 905-685-4225, ext. 3252 or **accessibility@niagararegion.ca** to make the appropriate arrangements.

www.niagararegion.ca

Lighthouse restoration nears completion

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

Originally scheduled for completion by the beginning of December, the renovations of the Point Abino Lighthouse are about 90 per cent complete, says Sean Hutton, manager of facilities for the Town of Fort Erie.

The $1.3 million project has taken a little longer than expected, but the construction of the lighthouse is still under budget, Hutton says, adding that a formal update about the renovations will be presented at a council meeting scheduled for Nov. 28.

"The short report will lay out the financial expenditures to date and it will include slideshows, and photos which will depict the process of the restoration of the lighthouse. "

The renovations are being completed by Phoenix Restoration— a company that has worked on numerous historical sites across Ontario, including Casa Loma in Toronto.

When the process began in June, the first repairs were made to the lighthouse's lantern metal roof which was restored and painted.

The lighthouse has been given a fresh coat of white paint, new windows and doors are ready to be installed and new drainage pipes are being added to help control flooding in the basement of the lighthouse.

"The basement does get flooded with water and the new drainage pipes will help the water leach back out of the build and to help control the humidity in the building."

Hutton says the basement has been known to flood because of its close proximity to the lake front —the new drainage pipes will collect the water and drain it out of the building.

One of the biggest components of the renovation is replacing and repairing the concrete walls in the lighthouse.

Hutton says there were many areas in the lighthouse where the concrete was cracked and it needed to be replaced, which was "a slow process."

"The vast majority of the work is tedious lot of the work involved hand scraping and chipping away at the cracked cement."

The walls of the lighthouse have been given a protective coating to guard against rain water and other harsh weather.

With the first tour of the lighthouse scheduled for June 1, Hutton says he hopes to have "very little left to do by the end of spring, just small touch ups and decorative things."

"We anticipate there will be about another three weeks of work and we will shut it down, but, it is dependent on the weather."

The facilities manager says the renovations have been "an educational and exciting" project to work because as the construction crew began, new elements about the lighthouse have been discovered.

"There are thousands of sea shells in the walls. It was common back then to use whatever local sand which could be found to make cement to build the lighthouse. "

Although access to the lighthouse has been restricted and there have been very few people who have seen the renovations in person, updates about the construction have been posted on the Town's website and on the Point Abino Lightstation Preservation Society's website. So far, the comments about the updates have been positive, says Hutton.

"I think people will be thrilled once they see the completion of the lighthouse's restoration and they will understand the significance of its heritage."

He adds that the much-needed updates to the lighthouse will last for a long time.

"The lighthouse needed to be restored—it was getting to the point where pieces of concrete were falling from the building. In the next 25 years it would have been depicted as a ruin and it would have been well beyond repair."

To view the process of lighthouse repairs, visit www.palps.ca and click on restoration progress.

Ask the Expert

Ask a "Paint & Flooring Specialist"

Q: Is Laminate Flooring your choice?

A: Laminate flooring is a material that is made to resemble wood flooring. This flooring has many advantages that other woods cannot provide you with. At first glance, it's hard to tell the difference between laminate and wood. Laminate is made to look like real wood with grain marks that are original and unique. Wood is expensive to maintain, where laminate is much easier to take care of, and not as easily scratched or marked. It's very durable. Wood floors, if laid correctly and properly maintained will last a lifetime. Laminate flooring will probably last just as long if not longer. Laminate is also much less expensive than hardwood floors. As well, laminate comes in a variety of colours and shades to suit every home decor. Beautiful laminate flooring can add value to any home.

KELLEE BLAIS
Paint & Flooring

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584 Garrison Road • 905-871-3648
email: fetimbr@cogeco.net
Store hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5:30
Sat. 8:00-5:00 • Sun. 9:00-3:00

Ask a Funeral Director

Q: How do grieving families face the holidays?

A: Acknowledging that it will be different now that someone has passed away is a first and important step. Often sharing your feelings and small alterations to deal with the pressures of the season help. Contact us if you would like written information or attend our Holiday Memorial Service designed to assist those grieving in our community during this time of the year.

Darren Flagg
Funeral Director

Benner Funeral Services Inc.
Benner Avenue • Fort Erie
905-871-0444

Ask the Kinesiologist

Q: HOW CAN I MAINTAIN MY WEIGHT THROUGHOUT THE WINTER MONTHS AND HOLIDAY SEASONS?

A: It happens every year about this time. . The air gets nippler, the days get shorter – and your jeans start getting tighter. Ready or not, feasting season is here -that seemingly endless time of temptation that starts with Halloween candy and continues with merry-making treats, than New Year's toasts. Even beyond Jan. 1, there are Super Bowl chips and dips and Valentine's Day chocolates to contend with The "Keys to Survival" are: **Practice Awareness** Be conscious of what you eat and how much. Allow yourself some special treats during the holidays, but have moderate servings. When there's a lot of food available, try an appetizer-sized helping of each dish instead of dishing up a full serving. Always look for opportunities to move For example, take a brisk walk whenever you get a few minutes; stand up and move around while you're on the phone call, and walk to a co-worker's desk instead of emailing him or her. **Manage Stress and Emotions.** One way to keep stress at a minimum is to lowar your expectations about holidays. Ask for help to lighten your holiday schedule. Host a potluck holiday meal instead of cooking a huge dinner. Make it a buffet dinner instead of having a sit-down meal. Learn to say "no", in a courteous manner, to activities and food that aren't in your best interest. If you're sad about a loss, turn to people for comfort instead of food Another way to deal with emotions is to make sure exercise remains a priority in your life. Exercise can be a great stress reliever. **Plan in Advance.** Eat a little before you go to a holiday gathering; hunger can undo the best intentions. After visiting a buffet, leave the room that's filled with food. If there are sweets in the office break room, don't go in there. If you're given unhealthy food as a gift, bring it to the office to share. The best way to survive the feasting season? Keep in mind that celebrations are really about family and friends – not food

Craig Cosby

ActiveCare Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation Centre
660 Garrison Road (Hwy 3), Fort Erie
289-320-9600 • www.activecarephysio.ca

Ask a Computer Expert

Q Why is Microsoft calling people? by Ed Smith

A There are numerous reports of calls from blocked or overseas numbers of which the caller states they are with Microsoft and viruses were detected on their computer. *Microsoft does not make unsolicited calls.* They are scam artists trying get your personal information -ie. credit card numbers - to clean or fix the 'infection'. Hang up swiftly.

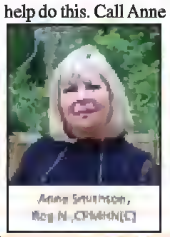
:-)

www.csniagara.com
905-228-6176 CSN
1247 Garrison Rd

Ask a Mental Health Therapist

Q How do physical health conditions affect our levels of anxiety?

A Each health condition has it's own unique challenges. Health problems can have a troubling impact on your life through pain and other physical symptoms and limitations on your day- to- day activities. Health conditions can lead to physical symptoms that lead to increased stress, worry and anxiety. Many people with health conditions can be helped by finding ways to deliberately rethink their situation by challenging their worry thoughts. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy has been scientifically proven to help do this. Call Anne Smith son Counselling Services for more information on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.



Anne Smithson, Reg N., CPMHN(C)

Identify your Strengths
Believe in YOU!

Anne Smithson Counselling Services
www.smithsoncounselling.com
310 Ridge Rd S.
Crystal Beach
905-931-7267

Ask the Expert

ASK THE EXPERT

Helen McCreadie

QUESTION: What government assistance is available for starting a new business?

ANSWER: The Ontario Self-Employment Benefit Program is funded in part by the Government of Canada. It is a great opportunity for entrepreneurs considering starting a **new business.** This program is a tool to help individuals create jobs for themselves through self-employment, by providing Income Support, Business Plan Development, and Mentoring. You may be eligible if you are unemployed and have an established claim for Employment Insurance benefits (E.I.); or had a claim within the past 3 years; or a maternity or paternity claim within the past 5 years, and are looking to re-enter the labour force.

The Business Success & Loan Centre Fort Erie (BSL) has been delivering this program to successful applicants living in the Greater Fort Erie area since 1993. For more information contact the BSL at: **905-871-7331.**

For more information contact:

BSL

Business Success & Loan Centre Fort Erie
45 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie, ON
905-871-7331 • www.bsift.com

Ask The Accountant

Q: Should I invest in a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) for my children or grandchildren?

A: With the high cost of education today this is absolutely one of the best things you can do for your children or grandchildren. This is a lifetime maximum contribution of $50,000 with no annual limit. Although the contributions are not tax deductible the income earned within the plan is not taxable until used to finance post-secondary education costs and included in the recipient's name, presumably at a lower rate.

The government will contribute an additional 20% up to an annual limit of $500 for a $2,500 contribution through the Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG) per beneficiary under the age of 18. Families with annual income up to $39,065 and up to $78,130 are entitled additional CESG of $100 and $50 respectively.

Families entitled to the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) with a child born after December 31, 2003 can apply for $500 Canada Learning Bond (CLB). These Children also qualify for additional CLB of $100 per year until age 15 as long as they continue to receive NCBS.

Finally, if no children attend post-secondary institutions there are various options available to the contributor but the grant funds are returned to the government.
STRATEGY - invest early in a RESP for children or grandchildren the deadline is December 31 for the current year

Kenneth D. Lenchyshyn
CGA, ALA, CFE

crawford smith & swallow
Chartered Accountants LLP
76 Jarvis Street,
Fort Erie, Ontario
905-871-2610
ken@crawfordss.com

Ask a Restaurateur

Q: Why are Gift Certificates from restaurants, popular purchases during the Christmas Season?

A: Gift Certificates have become great gift ideas for those hard to buy for people. Be it for business colleagues or loved ones, Gift Certificates have eliminated the stress of shopping for something that might never be used or appreciated. Gift buying and the Christmas Season go hand in hand, so join the many that buy Gift Certificates from popular restaurants through the internet web-sites on-line, calling by phone with Credit Cards in hand or dropping in for a purchase, in person.
The Old Bank Bistro offers Gift Certificates all year around with no restrictions, no expiry dates and with any denomination which accommodates any budget. The Old Bank Bistro always goes beyond the average so our Gift Certificates are actual Unregistered Stock Certificates as novelty gift items. So when you are Christmas shopping for that special someone, remember where they love to eat and consider purchasing a Gift Certificate and Bon Appetite.

Your host, Peter Koutroulakis

The Old Bank Bistro & Bar
Peter Koutroulakis 41 Jarvis Street • 905-994-9222
Owner Lunchbreak Old Bank Bistro www.oldbankbistro.com

Ask a Hair Stylist

Q: Is it okay to try a different hairstylist then go back to the original?

A: Absolutely! The problem with it is guilt & loyalty...but you shouldn't feel guilty, because your hairstylist doesn't own your hair. The same goes for the stylist. They really shouldn't make you feel bad about switching or centre you out..... you're back in their chair and they should just be happy you came back.

Jaci & Val
Hair Stylists/Owners

My Salon
PAUL MITCHELL
FOCUS SALON
13 Princess Street, Fort Erie
(905) 871-1236

Ask the Interior Decorator

Q: HOW SHOULD I STAGE MY HOME FOR SALE AT CHRISTMAS?

A: Christmas decorating definitely breaks two of the cardinal rules of staging - decluttering and depersonalizing. So what do you do? It's hard to resist the tradition of displaying your family keepsakes at this time of year. So don't. Just try to keep it to a minimum by following these simple tips. Remember, you still want to show how spacious your home is, while highlighting the best features. Start by using a smaller tree – perhaps a table-top tree, with presents stacked neatly underneath. You want to avoid blocking traffic flow, windows, or architectural features like fireplace mantels. Keeping your décor to one colour that blends with the room ensures the focus stays where it should - on the room itself. Another good idea is to use pine cones and fresh greenery – everyone loves the scent of pine at Christmas! Finish it off by leaving a plate of Christmas cookies on the kitchen table for your guests.

Wish you and your family all the best this holiday season, Maxine

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Committee seeks more support for 1812 events

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

The 1812 Bicentennial celebrations are almost here and the local planning committee is looking for people to take part in one of its main attractions.

The Grand Parade scheduled for June 23 is expected to be the biggest grand parade in North America, says John Johnston, project coordinator for bicentennial committee.

He says part of the committee's plan is to reach out to schools and service clubs to build floats for the parade, which is expected to draw 150,000 tourists to Fort Erie.

"We have two themes for the floats—the community in 1812 and 200 years of peace."

So far, Johnston says the committee has had a bit of trouble talking to schools and getting them involved in the celebration preparations.

"It's an important historical event and we hope to do more by reaching out to people and getting them involved."

The Grand Parade is a military tradition—after war times ended and soldiers came home, they were given huge welcome home parades.

"After the War of 1812, the soldiers didn't get a parade so we are giving the soldiers a grand parade 200 years later."

About 50 bands representing Britain, Canada, the United States and First Nations will march along Niagara Boulevard and proceed past Mather Arch to the Old Fort.

The parade is considered one of Niagara's signature events, the second is a siege weekend scheduled for August.

Later in the afternoon after the parade, the bands will gather in a military tattoo to display military drills and perform music.

The evening's celebrations will be concluded with a fireworks display to recreate the attack on the Fort.

Johnston says there are many benefits from getting involved in the preparations he hopes to talk about with schools.

These benefits include volunteerism and learning about Canada's history— the committee will also provide assistance for schools and service clubs who participate the in the grand parade.

"Everyone needs to know our history. We wouldn't be here today if it was not for the outcome of the war.

Johnston says the committee is also looking for more sponsors and more people to get involved by helping the committee

"We need more sponsors and we hope to have more businesses over the next few weeks to sponsor some of the bicentennial celebrations."

He says everyone who sponsors one of the bicentennial's events will benefit in two ways — they will be helping to commemorate one of Canada's most significant moments in history and they will help to bring thousands of tourists to the area and stimulate the economy.

The committee is also looking for people who have a background in marketing to help with merchandising for the bicentennial celebrations.

"We're looking for people with a background in marketing to help us with merchandising we are selling to fundraise and commemorate the bicentennial which include things like hoodies and sweatshirts."

With so much to do, Johnston says anyone who is interested in helping with the celebrations or taking part in the parade should contact the committee as soon as possible.

The Fort Erie 1812 Bicentennial Project Committee is releasing it's 2012 Bicentennial Calendar to be available immediately. The calendar has been sponsored by the Peace Bridge Authority and is a collector's item. It contains pictures and artwork of local 1812 scenes and traces significant events that took place 200 years ago during the first year of the War. The calendar retails for ten dollars and is available through the Chamber of Commerce, Town Hall, banks and designated retailers. It will also be available on the Fort Erie 1812 Bicentennial website.

For more information about how to get involved visit www.forterie1812.ca.

Project Green Falcon advances to third round of voting

Debbie Sexsmith, left, Brent Gorrie, Erica Everett, Cameron MacDonald, Faith Schaeffer, vice-principal Norbert Kuebeck before going for a tour of the greenhouse at Fort Erie Secondary School.

Kris Dubé
The Times

Denise-Flake Everett wants to stress the importance of sustaining our environment, but also wants to emphasize how crucial it is for high school students to learn more about it.

The local parent spearheaded Project Green Falcon a few months ago, an application to the Aviva Community Fund, a nationwide contest that provides funding to successful contestants who are asking for improvements to their respective facility.

For this project, it's the greenhouse at Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS).

It is currently used by special needs students to learn more about plant life and is also put to use by the Fort Erie Horticultural Society.

Everett and her team of volunteers have advanced the project to the third round of voting and hopes in the end a cheque for $125,000 will be sent in the school's direction to improve the greenhouse.

On Wednesday, Everett and several students were at the school, enjoying hot chocolate and going on short tours of the small growing facility.

If FESS is advanced onto the next round of voting, it will have to be one of ten projects in the large division of the competition to be kept alive.

The financial support she is hoping for would include the refurbishment of the greenhouse, a complete aquaponics transformation, a 10-K solar grid and or a wind turbine, educational training allowances for teachers, staff, students and key partners.

If all of this does become a reality, she says students will benefit tremendously from it.

"It's important to teach our kids to love the earth," she said.

In the era of social networking, there has been a local growth of support for the project on Facebook and words of support from people who have taken the time to vote everyday for the project, which she is more than grateful for.

"It's outstanding, the amount of people who have contributed in support of this," she added.

Debbie Sexsmith, from the Sexsmith Farm Co-operative on Dominion Road, has partnered with the school also, hoping to provide benefits to students by exchanging services and even land for that matter.

This past July, Sexsmith welcomed FESS educational assistant Ryan Timbers and the summer catch program to a day on the farm and several ideas were planted.

"We had an incredible day... it went over so well," she said.

One idea that stands out the most for Sexsmith is the offer of the co-operative being able to use the greenhouse, in exchange for about a half-acre of land for students enroled at FESS to plant starter crops like potatoes and onions.

She said it would be a joint-effort that would provide many benefits for both herself as a local grower but also for students interested in the field.

"There's nowhere to grow, but up," said Sexsmith.

To vote for Project Green Falcon in the third round, you can visit www.avivacommunityfund.org and click on idea no. 11172.

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Family presented $5,000 at local grocery store

Kris Dubé
The Times

Thanks to the President's Choice Children's Charity and Joe's Valu-Mart, a local boy with autism is getting closer to some much needed treatment.

Giacomo Lo Stracco and his parents Korie and Steve were invited to the local grocery store in Ridgeway this week, to be presented with a cheque to go towards care at Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI).

His mother Korie was thrilled that her son is the recipient of this contribution, but there are still many hurdles the family faces getting Giacomo the care he needs.

They are sitting patiently on a waiting list with the number 33 in their hands.

Friends of the Lo Stracco family who also have two children with autism are 8 and 9 on the same list, received confirmation that care for their two youngsters will begin next Fall.

"That gives you an indication on how long this wait list is," said Korie.

She estimates it costs the average family about $70,000 a year to properly treat a child with autism, therefore more dollars need to be set aside for this reason.

"There needs to be more funding for these kids and it's not fair that government money is being allocated elsewhere," she said.

But at the same time, the family is more than appreciative of the local store and President's Choice for its thoughtfulness.

"We're very grateful," said Korie.

Joe Ambrosio, owner of the grocery store in Ridgeway, says he is glad to be a part of this contribution.

"It's an amazing thing to be able to help a child and their family who really need and really deserve it," said Ambrosio.

Staff at Joe's Valu-Mart raised funds for this cause by selling icons in the store and through direct employee contributions.

"The staff has done a fabulous job raising money so we can help kids like Giacomo, but there is so much more we need to do and so many more kids we can help," said Ambrosio.

Over the years, the President's Choice Children's Charity has awarded over $46 million to 6,500 families across Canada.

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Staff at Joe's Valu-Mart presented four-year-old Giacomo Lo Stracco with a cake, to go with the $5,000 his family will receive for autism treatment, through the President's Choice Children's Charity.

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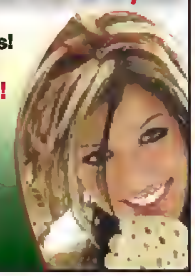

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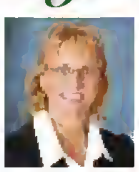

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Lamp sale for a cause

Hundreds of homemade, barely touched antique-style lamps are up for grabs, in a fundraiser to benefit the Niagara Chapter of Native Women (NCNW) and Abbey House, a transitional women's home under the umbrella of the Niagara Regional Native Centre.

The event will be held Fri. Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the NCNW's 1088 Garrison Rd. location.

It is a joint-fundraiser to support programs and services at both agencies.

"Everything from this sale goes right back to both organizations," said Wendy Sturgeon, executive director of NCNW.

Although native friendship centres do receive government funding, agencies like Abbey House and the NCNW heavily rely on fundraising, grants and donations from generous individuals and parties in the community.

The lamps were donated by a Niagara business person who closed their store, and decided to donate them to a good cause such as this.

They will be priced from about $50 to upwards of $140.

Jessie Gaumond, left, a volunteer with Abbey House, a transitional home for native women, and Wendy Sturgeon, the executive director of the Niagara Chapter of Native Women (NCNW) are getting ready for a fundraiser at the NCNW's Garrison Road location. On Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. there will be a lamp sale to benefit both organizations.

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Bridges seeks support for transit petition

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

For some, using the transit service is a necessity—for others, it may be an environmentally friendly choice.

Whatever the reason, Rhonda Barron, health promoter for Bridges Community Health Centre, wants everyone who thinks transit service is important for to sign a petition to let council know how important transit services are to residents.

There are currently three forms of transit in the community including an intermunicipal service connecting Fort Erie and Niagara Falls, the Fort Erie Accessible Specialized Transit (FAST) which services people with disabilities and a conventional public transit service, says Barron.

The conventional transit service operates between 7:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m., says Barron. "We would like the Town to consider extending the service hours in the morning and in the evening so the transit would begin its first run at 6:30 a.m. and go a little later in the evening until 9:30 p.m."

The health promoter recognizes there are challenges with Fort Erie's transit—people who aren't able to catch the connection to Niagara Falls from the Wal Mart Plaza in Fort Erie are at a disadvantage because they can't seek job opportunities outside of the community. Another problem Barron recognizes is for people who live in the Crystal Beach and Stevensville area.

"For example, there might be someone who lives in Crystal Beach that doesn't have access to a car—shopping becomes an issue because many people work. The people who use the transit service would be able to reach the Wal Mart or the No Frills in Fort Erie in the early evening, but they wouldn't be able to get home because it would be outside the service time."

Barron says having extended hours for the conventional transit service would help to solve some of these problems.

She also hopes to have 5,000 signatures to present to councillors during a meeting scheduled for Dec. 12. Although it is an ambitious number, Barron says it's not impossible.

"When looking at Fort Erie's population, there is about 30,000 people living in the community. 5,000 signatures is a good start."

Barron says the petition opened up online this week and there were more than 100 signatures after only two days.

-Read the whole story at www.forterietimes.com

Dog owner thankful for community's assistance in search for 'Willy'

It has been almost three weeks since Lori Cruise Claus has seen her little dog.

It's been a rough time for her, but thanks to a wave of community support it has been a little bit easier.

The last weekend of October, Lori and her husband went on a short vacation and boarded their two small dogs 'Willy' and 'Rocky' at a local kennel on Garrison Road. When they returned back to town on Sunday, the kennel owner explained that 'Willy' had made his way off the property, when a visitor to the site accidentally opened a gate to the outside area where clients' canines are kept for exercise.

Lori and many others then headed out into the wild, combing different neighbourhoods, hoping the black shi-poo with white on its chest and tail, was in a safe place.

Through social networking sites like Facebook, news feeds were crowded with posts about Willy. A local lost and found group was recently created around the same time and has served as likely the best venue for people to keep updated on the search.

Last Friday night, someone posted that he had been spotted near Concession Road and immediately Lori and her husband got in the car and drove down to see.

By the time they arrived, dozens over other people were already there searching.

She admits some of them were known to her, but many were complete strangers who wanted to help.

"These people have done so much for us," she said.

"Unless you live in a small town like this, people just don't understand."

One couple heard about Willy and decided to put their own canine's sniffing detection abilities to use, came by her house for some of his toys and went out into the night with a wag of hope.

"It's unbelievable," she said.

Considering the three-week mark is approaching, she does know it might be time to just relax and hope he finds his way home... but after reading a post from someone on Facebook on Tuesday who thinks Willy may have been spotted in Crystal Beach a few days ago, it's hard to sit still.

"A lot of people are saying it's time to calm down a bit and let it go, but I can't... as long as there's one thread of hope that he's alive," she said.

Willy will likely respond to commands such as "come get your leash" or "cookie."

Lori and her family are thankful for all the love and support received during this difficult time.

Dianne Hewitt, owner of the kennel, says she has been searching for the lost dog ever since it was reported that it had left the premises on Garrison Road.

She claims the dog left when another potential customer came to the business, looking to board their own pooch. He entered the business through a gate to the enclosed area where the dogs are exercised, rather than through the kennel, which is always locked.

She estimates he made his escape around 3 p.m. on Nov. 3 and began searching for him.

"Everyone has been looking," she said a few days after it was realized Willy was missing.

Anyone who has information can contact the SPCA at (905) 871-2461. Claus is offering a reward for Willy's safe return. Her phone number at home is (905) 871- 6788.

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CANADIAN BLACK FRIDAY

Black Friday is here

As our neighbours to the south deal with their turkey-induced hangovers, many of them, and a growing number of Canadians, will be partaking in the huge savings of Black Friday.

But when exactly did this shopping extravaganza begin?

According to Time Magazine, the term "Black Friday" was used by newspapers in Philadelphia to describe the crazy crowds at stores in the city of brotherly love. Prior to that, it was used in reference to a stock-market crisis in 1864.

The term caught on, after being linked to retailers being "in the black" or making a profit on the massive shopping day.

Black Friday has been an "unofficial retail holiday" in the United States since the 1990s, according to Time, and is the season's biggest shopping day.

The Christmas shopping season traditionally begins after American Thanksgiving, and has done so since the 19th century. Time cites that American Thanksgiving was traditionally marked by sales and celebrations, and eventually included department stores hosting their own parades to mark the occasion – such as the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

Of course, this retail craze has spread to Canada as well, and people north of the 49th can look forward to getting a jump on their Christmas shopping too.

Within this section, we'll look at the ins and outs of Black Friday, how Canadians can cash in on the savings, what the hot items are for this year, and more.

Lines, deals and craziness

If you love the energy of big crowds and the thrill of the chase, you're likely one of a growing number of Canadian consumers who circle Black Friday on their calendars as a "must shop" day. And it's no wonder – it's definitely one of the best days of the year to head to the stores or go online to snag deep-discounted items and get holiday shopping done early.

For those who enjoy the cross-border shopping experience, getting up at 3 a.m. to drive south and stand in line to grab a DVD player for $10 represents the ultimate shopping experience. While many Canadians who will do just that on November 25, many others will opt to shop locally as more and more Canadian retailers come on board with their own Black Friday deals.

Last year, many hopped on board with half-price and 60% off sales, and this year, enthusiastic shoppers can once again expect the same and even better availability of great bargains without the expense of crossing the border.

A word to the wise: plan ahead and know what you're looking for – Black Friday is not a day to browse. Instead, check out store ads and make a list ahead of time of what you might like to buy at each store you plan to visit. Some sales only last a few hours, and keep in mind that the hottest electronics, for example, will be the first to sell out, so head to those stores first.

If you're dropping purchases off in your car and returning to the stores, put them in the trunk to discourage easy theft – unlike one absent-minded shopper last year who left his newly-purchased 55-inch TV sitting in full view in the back of his pick-up truck while he went back into the mall to shop!

Many other Black Friday shoppers will choose to shop quietly, without the excitement of throngs of shoppers around them, with just a cup of coffee and a laptop computer as they surf the virtual world of online shopping on Cyber Monday, when many Canadian retailers will offer their best sales of the season.

Whether you plan to plunge into the crowds of Black Friday shoppers, or go online to take advantage of the many excellent deals that will be offered on Cyber Monday, you're sure to make a good dent in your holiday shopping list. And this year, many shoppers will reward themselves, too: last year, a retail survey showed that 15% of Black Friday shoppers bought at least one item for themselves.

One thing is for certain, however: Black Friday has arrived in Canada, and it's here to stay.

Lines at stores, like the one seen here at Macy's in the U.S., are a common sight on Black Friday. Canadians can expect smaller lines than this north of the border, and also have the added benefit of avoiding the lines and getting their deals online. Photos: QMI Files

canadianblackfriday.ca

Your passport to savings

CANADIAN BLACK FRIDAY

Top picks for this Black Friday

Black Friday shopping in the U.S., and more recently in Canada, is most often associated with deals on home electronics and toys – and this year will be no exception.

However, big retailers also use Black Friday to move products in all shopping categories to help keep Canadian shoppers at home with their credit cards.

Last year, Sears Canada ran its first-ever Black Friday promotion in-store and online to kick off the Christmas shopping season. Sears brought U.S. pricing to Canadians and also offered price matching on hundreds of the most sought-after gifts of the season. In addition to big-screen high-definition televisions, Sears offered big savings on fridges, treadmills, kitchen gadgets and up to 50% off on apparel.

"We are officially kicking off the Christmas shopping season by offering our customers exceptional savings on Canada's most popular gift categories," said Dene Rogers, president and chief executive officer, Sears Canada. "Black Friday is a day which is growing in significance in Canada and we are bringing it to our customers with massive savings on a broad range of merchandise."

FutureShop is also readying its stores for Black Friday and will utilize social media boards to promote Black Friday and Cyber Monday specials.

"We plan to use social media more than ever this year," says spokesperson Elliott Chun. "We'll be posting all of our Black Friday and Cyber Monday specials through news portals such as Twitter and our Facebook page."

Chun says the newest gaming titles such as Batman: Arkham City and Call of Duty Modern Warfare 3 are expected to be at the top of shopping lists, as well as items on FutureShop's top-ten hot products of 2011: Apple's iPhone 4S; iPad 2; Apple TV; LG Cinema 3D HDTV; PlayStation 3; Nintendo 3DS; Canon T3 DSLR camera; GoPro HD Sports Camera; Toshiba's L755 DS i3 Laptop; and Keurig's Single Serve Coffee Maker.

"In 2010, Black Friday shoppers planned to spend between $100 and $500... ."

Grown-up toys are not the only hot Black Friday deals to watch out for, according to Liz MacDonald, vice-president, marketing and store planning, for Toys 'R' Us Canada.

"We'll be offering half-price on thousands of traditional, name-brand items like Lego, Nerfs, and Barbies," she says. "We're making sure our customers kick off their Christmas shopping on Black Friday and walk away with great deals."

Like FutureShop, sales will be offered online as well and MacDonald expects that there will be even more specials available online as well as unique deals, "because we can carry such a larger assortment."

MacDonald says her company's Hot Toy List is a bible of sorts for youngsters and their parents when it comes to wish lists and shopping lists of must-have items. This year, the Toys 'R' Us top-20 list of toys in Canada includes Let's Rock Elmo, Barbie's Malibu Dreamhouse, Hot Wheels Wall Tracks Starter Kit, Pokemon Black 'n White Figures, The Smurfs, Leapster Explorer, Redakai Starter Pack, Bizu Style Studio, Moshi Monsters, and Lalaloopsy Cheerleader Doll.

According to a Neilsen survey, in 2010 Black Friday shoppers planned to spend between $100 and $500 on electronics, video games and toys as well as apparel, gift cards, sporting goods, jewelry, books and DVDs.

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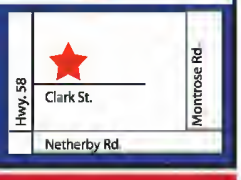

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Your passport to savings

CANADIAN BLACK FRIDAY

Checking off your gift list

What's on your wish list this year? Black Friday offers lots of opportunities to kick off your Christmas shopping with in-store and online deals. Whether you go traditional, trendy, or just want something a little different, you're sure to find something for everyone on Canadian Black Friday.

For him? Retro is in, and if you know someone who has a box of dusty but still treasured LPs stuck in the basement, you'll want to check out Crosley's line of original vintage radios and turntables. Combined with the newest technologies, they let you record your vinyl albums and cassettes to CDs – it's perfect for his man cave.

And the hottest jewelry trend for men is the casual, sporty leather cuff or friendship bracelet, worn one at a time or by the armful.

If that special guy or anyone else on your list is a reader, websites like amazon.ca make it easy with current lists of "most wished for" and "most gifted" titles. Right now, the most-gifted book is former Apple CEO Steve Jobs' new biography. Lists are updated each day.

It goes without saying that electronics are in the stratosphere of most-desired gifts, and a recent PriceGrabber winter holiday shopping survey reports that the most popular gifts this year are tablets, iPods and MP3 players followed by e-book readers, cell phones or smartphones, cameras, TVs and laptops.

For her? Tried and true classics like a spa weekend, cologne and jewelry are always in fashion, and even the dreaded kitchen gadget ain't what it used to be with Keurig's and Tassimo's sleek, single-cup home brewing systems and Cuisinart's Theatre-Style Professional Popcorn Maker for cosy movie nights at home.

PriceGrabber also reports that 66% of shoppers are putting clothing at the top of their lists. One of this year's hottest trends for women is the wrap sweater.

Candles are also a perennial favourite, says Willa Worsley, owner of Presents Presents Presents in Uxbridge, Ont. This year's big new hit is the Reallite by Canadian-owned Abbott Giftware, which combines a wax pillar-style candle with a patented battery-operated "real flame" that looks just like a lit candle. Reallite candles also have a timer: set the candle once and never turn it on or off again.

"It's a beautiful, safe addition to any family home," she says.

Board games are always popular during the holiday season and beyond. Old favourites like Monopoly have been updated with Elvis and The Beatles versions.

For those last-minute or hard-to-buy-for people on your list, Hickory Farms is a one-stop online Canadian shop for gourmet food basket delivery that's ready for your order 24-hours-a-day to make your holiday shopping even easier.

And if all else fails: gift cards, of course. College and university students will welcome them for groceries, coffee shops, and long distance telephone calls. And young gamers' eyes will light up at the sight of a Sony Playstation Network Card, which lets them purchase downloadable games, game add-ons, full-length movies, TV shows and other content on PlayStation 3 or PSP.

Canadian Black Friday is almost here – it's time to plan your budget, write your list, and get ready to wrap it up early this year.

WORD ON THE STREET:
Black Friday shopping plans

What are you going to shop for on Canadian Black Friday?

Juanita Boccone of Vaughan, with her two teenage daughters:

"Well, I'll be coming here for quite a few things, actually. Some for me and my daughter, like clothes and shoes, but mostly to get good deals on gifts for people on my Christmas list. I could really use a new leather coat for work, so I'm going to check out what's on sale at a couple of big clothing stores. If the prices are good, I might pick up a purse and a leather wallet for my mom. My daughter needs a new pair of boots for walking to and from school. For gifts, I'd like to see a great two-for-one on flannel PJ sets and marked-down picture frames. I'm also going to check out bookstores for deals on best sellers."

Rick Atkins of Woodbridge, shopping with his teenage son:

"I'm going to check out the deals on home theatre systems. I'm looking for a 3D home theatre projector. If I can't find what I'm looking for at the price I want, I'm going to check out the pricing on their XBox 360. I have an 16-year-old son and it would make a great Christmas gift for both of us. At the very least, I'm hoping to come home with a handful of DVDs or video games."

Claire Ritenburg of Willowdale, college student:

"As a student, I haven't been doing too much shopping lately, but occasions like Christmas and Black Friday are a good excuse to hit the mall. Some things I will be looking for are any Apple products, like, an iPad or iPhone, and complete seasons of television shows like Sons of Anarchy and Modern Family. I'm also hoping to pick up the complete collection of Harry Potter movies."

Sandra Minz of Blackstock, mom of three teenagers:

"I love shopping for great deals. I have to buy stuff anyway so I may as well get it on sale and then I can save money or buy something else I need.

I'll be shopping for Christmas gifts for my kids and some home décor stuff, too. So far, my daughter wants a DSi, the one with the camera and some games to go with it. I'll be looking for Barbie clothes and maybe a doll to go with it. For the boys I'll be looking for cool T-shirts, a new snowboard, a hockey stick and a helmet cam. My eldest is 18 and he hasn't decided what he wants for Christmas yet so I'll probably just go to a few electronics stores to see what the latest gadgets are for kids his age.

It's a great time to look for new Christmas decorations. Being out in a mall when it's full of shoppers really gets me in the mood to decorate for the holidays. If I have time, I'll look for something for me, like new boots or something fancy to wear to the Christmas party."

A snowboard and an XBox 360 are just two of the gifts our polled shoppers will be hunting for this Black Friday.

CANADIAN BLACK FRIDAY

Embracing online shopping

Traditionally an American Thanksgiving pastime for many decades, Black Friday shopping is becoming more well-known in Canada due to our strong dollar, the increasing commitment of Canadian retailers to Black Friday sales, and the popularity and convenience of online shopping.

Black Friday takes place on November 25 this year, and continues on what has become known as Cyber Monday, which is the online version of Black Friday, and now the biggest online shopping day of the year.

John Knowles, president of stealthedeal.com, says his website primarily helps consumers shop locally and gives smaller retailers a chance to strut their online stuff. Members benefit by finding local deals and the best prices on products and services they may not have even known existed in their community.

"This Cyber Monday will be huge," he says. "It's been getting bigger and better each of the last five years. People are far and away more comfortable shopping online with their credit cards than they have ever been in the past. There's a new level of comfort and that has combined with a much larger variety of items now available online."

"We like to refer to Cyber Monday as our gifting Monday," he adds. "Food and spas will be two of our biggest categories for shopping, and our theme is that there will be lots of opportunity to purchase items that you would like to give, or especially receive yourself. When members open up their stealthedeal.com email on Cyber Monday, they will be able to send their wish list to others."

Derek Szeto is the founder of redflagdeals.com, which is currently riding the wave of millions of Canadian shoppers who are looking for the best online deals available. The site compiles discount information from stores across Canada, and shoppers can tap into daily and weekly deals, access hundreds of coupons, and get tips on how to save money. It all adds up to increased access to Black Friday deals, both Canadian and American, that are available at the click of a mouse without the inconvenience and expense of crossing the border.

"One of the reasons Black Friday is becoming more well known in Canada is because many online sites are now including their own Black Friday specials," he says. "In the past couple of years we've seen huge growth in online participation by Canadian retailers, and this is partly because they want to keep their customers in Canada on Black Friday.

"As well, more stores in the States are recognizing that Canadian consumers are able and willing to buy online and they're offering incentives like free shipping to make it even more accessible. However, Black Friday is still a very American-centric shopping season because they don't have Boxing Day. It will never replace Boxing Day as the biggest sales event in Canada, but it's like a mini-Boxing Day that is certainly convenient for Canadian holiday shopping."

In the United States, online shopping is up 24% from 2010, and it is expected that consumers will spend over $800 million on Black Friday bargains this year.

Electronics stores in Canada are especially tuned in to Black Friday and Cyber Monday because both of these big shopping days represent opportunities to keep Canadians shopping at home with special online offers. "Black Friday and Cyber Monday are good days for us because we know that customers will be going online to shop, especially for the most popular items," says one retailer. "Canadians can definitely expect to see great specials on electronics in-store and, especially online.

"The web offers us a much larger storefront because there's no leased or owned space that we have to deal with," he adds. "As Black Friday continues to gain interest from Canadian consumers, our stance is that if they're looking for that kind of experience, we're going to find every way possible to provide it to them."

Szeto agrees that electronics will be top of mind again this year for online Black Friday shoppers.

"Televisions, computers and other electronics are among the easiest of items to buy online," he says. "There are no sizing issues and it's easy to compare prices for a certain item. We will also see big sales on items like DVDs, music, books, and of course apparel."

"Electronics stores in Canada are especially tuned in to Black Friday and Cyber Monday...."

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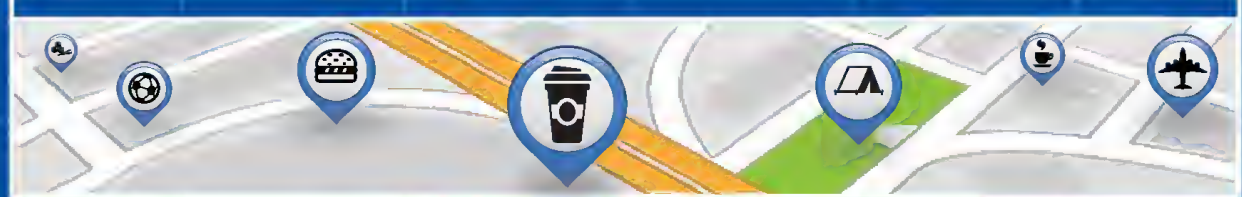

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7470 Monastery Drive, Unit #26, Niagara Falls. Nov. 26th & 27th, 9:30am-3pm.
Antiques, Furniture, Crystal & China, Jewellery, Bedding & Linens, Fabric, Crafts Ceramic's, Kiln & Supplies, Christmas Decorations, Mobility Scooters. Info: www.AnnaHELPS.com/sales or 519-532-9613.

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7am -7pm
Monday - Friday
& Saturday
8am -3pm

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Classified Extra

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Business & Service DIRECTORY

Home Improvement

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LAKEPORT CLEANERS No time for Laundry? try our "4 Minute Wash and Fold" 2 minutes to pick it up. 15% Seniors Discount. Everyday 20% off dry cleaning with this ad. 218-6 Lakeport Rd. (at Linwell) St. Catharines. 905-648-6744

OPPORTUNITY
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1-866-541-6757

Plumbing S270

DON'T GET snowed in this winter! Get affordable home comfort. Complete high-efficiency heating starting from $2650, HST included. Rebates available on qualifying units. FREE estimate. Castle Plumbing and Heating 905-682-8306

Roofing S300

NIAGARA WHOLESALE ROOFING and Renovations, re-roofing, repairs, custom steel, eaves, siding, window, 20-50 year shingle warranty. We've Got you covered. We will match or beat any qualified written estimate.
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Business/ Franchise Opps S380

ATTENTION READERS
classifiedextra.ca strongly urges readers to investigate potential BUSINESS and FRANCHISE Opportunities before sending money in response to any advertisements.

Health & Wellness S400

BIRTHDAY PARTIES & More. Visit our website or call and book your event with us! 289-620-7233. Little BFF Diva Spa, Once upon a Twinkle, Med Lab Studio, Sugarplum Land, Sudsy & Sweet Boutique. How Sweet it is Candy Buffets. 169 East Main Street, Welland www.bffspa.com

CONGRATULATIONS

Tell them and everyone else, how you feel with an Announcement in their local paper.
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Classified Extra!
7am -7pm
Monday - Friday
& Saturday
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Marking your milestones.

Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Announcements

Birthday greetings

Happy 18th Birthday

Austin Joel

Love Mom, Rick, Turner, Colton, Autumn, and Annie.

Special In Memoriams 245

Remember Your Loved Ones This Christmas

with an In Memoriam in the Fort Erie Times on Saturday, December 24th.

For your convenience Memorial Verses are available at our office. Be sure to have your copy and photo (if desired) to the Times no later than Tuesday, December 20th at 3 p.m.
450 Garrison Road, Unit 1
Tel: 905-871-3100 / Fax 905-871-5243
classifieds@fortterietimes.com

The Fort Erie Times

Research saves lives.
Please give.
HEART & STROKE FOUNDATION
Finding answers. For life.

Deaths

BLESSING, Ruth Caroline - Ruth passed away at the Greater Niagara General Hospital on Saturday November 19th, 2011 in her 95th year. Predeceased by her first husband Donald G. Haney and her second husband Melvin Blessing. Proud mother of Charlene (Robert) Heckman, Donald (Margaret) Haney and Kathleen Washburn. Loving grandmother of Michelle (Gregory Gwynne) Gordon, Kristen Heckman, Margaret Schieferstein, Colleen (Augusto Duminuco) Haney and Patricia (Brian) O'Rourke. Cherished great grandmother of Shirelle, Brandon, Reilly and Braeden. Ruth will be sadly missed by her extended family, nieces, nephews and many friends. Predeceased by her great granddaughter Carleigh, 3 brothers and 1 sister. Ruth's strong faith showed in her dedicating her time and energy to organizations such as St. Michael's CWL where she was a lifetime member, the St. Joseph's Church choir, OLV Soup canteen and the Shamrock Club. She also served as a Brownie Leader. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Tuesday from 10 am until the time of service in the Benner Funeral Chapel at 12 noon. If so desired, donations to Meals on Wheels Fort Erie or Crescent Park Lodge Fort Erie would be appreciated by the family. Online condolences and donation information at www.bennerfuneralservices.com

In memoriam

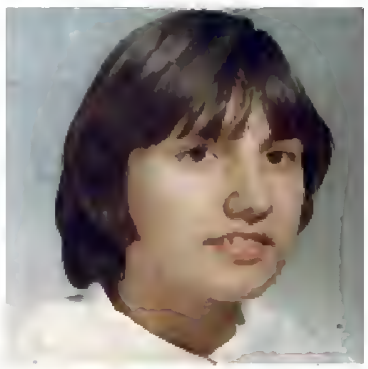
BEVERLY DRIVER

Remembering a wonderful mother and grandmother who left us one year ago, November 26, 2010
Gone are the days we used to share,
But in our hearts you are always there,
The gates of memory will never close,
We miss you more than anyone knows.
With tender love and deep regret,
We who love you will never forget.
Love always, Cheryl, Ted, Nicole, Danielle, Pat, Cathy, Ryan and Caitlin

A million times I've needed you
A million times I've cried,
If love could have saved you
You never would have died.
Things we feel most deeply
Are the hardest things to say,
My dearest one, I loved you,
In a very special way.
If I could have one lifetime wish
One dream that could come true,
I'd pray to God with all my heart
For yesterday and you.

Memoriam Verse #81
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

In memoriam



In loving memory of a dear daughter
Rosalyn Elizabeth Skinner
who left us November 26, 1969.
When the dewy light was fading
And the sky in beauty smiled,
The angels came into our garden
And picked the sweetest flower.
Always in our hearts and loved by
Mom & Des.

A million times I've needed you
A million times I've cried,
If love could have saved you
You never would have died.
Things we feel most deeply
Are the hardest things to say,
My dearest one, I loved you,
In a very special way.
If I could have one lifetime wish
One dream that could come true,
I'd pray to God with all my heart
For yesterday and you.

Memoriam Verse #81
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Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

Funeral Services

Niagara Funeral Alternatives Inc.
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Dignity, Simplicity and Respect
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Funeral Services

Benner Funeral Services invite you to our ...
Benner Funeral Services Inc.
Holiday Memorial Service
This service will be an opportunity to recognize the lives of those that have passed, regardless of where or when. Please call the funeral home for more information and to have your loved one's name added to the Litany of Remembrance 905-871-0444
Wednesday December 7th, 2011
Music of the season 6:30
Memorial Service 7:00
St. Paul's Anglican Church
Niagara Blvd. and Gilmore Rd.
Time of Refreshments to follow.

check this out

fepl
Fort Erie Public Library

Do the Holidays get you down?
Counsellor Sandy Saczkowski offers insight into how the stresses of life and other events keep us from feeling festive, and what we can do about it.
Wed., Nov. 30, 7 pm, Crystal Ridge.

Mittens and Books
Donations of new, often hand-knitted hats, mitts and scarves, and books for area children in need are accepted at the Library for distribution through Kinsmen Gift of Love and St. Vincent de Paul. This year, non-perishable food items will also be collected.
Nov. 7 – Dec. 9, all three branches.

Super Science Saturdays
For ages 7 to 10, a series of great hands-on science experiments for fun and learning. $8 for 4 weeks. Pre-registration required.
Each Saturday, November 5 - 26; 10:30 am, Centennial.

Chocolate Club
Kids ages 6 to 11 should bring a mug and their imagination; we'll supply hot chocolate, marshmallows, and a great story of adventure or humour. $2 for 4 weeks.
Mondays beginning Nov. 7, 4 pm, Stevensville.
Tuesdays beginning Nov. 1, 4 pm, Centennial and Crystal Ridge.

Katkwenyes
Adult Literacy Program
invites you to an
OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, December 8th
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
at Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre
796 Buffalo Rd., Fort Erie
Prospective learners and community service providers - Come see how we help adults SUCCEED in their lives!
Snacks and Door Prizes.
All Welcome.
Enrollment is on-going and FREE.
Please call 905-871-8931 for more information.

Jeff Allen Memorial

On Thursday Nov. 17, Fort Erie Secondary School hosted the Jeff Allen Memorial Basketball tournament, to honour the teacher who passed away earlier this year from cancer. Seen here are his parents Bob and Cheryl, FESS player Mike Putman, Dustin Bennett from Centennial High School, Allen's wife Shari, and her parents Stella and Ron Richardson.

Meteors at home tonight

In Junior B action of the Ontario Hockey Association, the Fort Erie Meteors played against the Elmira Sugar Kings and lost 12-2 on home ice last Saturday.

Their next game was Thursday night and they lost to the Stoney Creek Warriors 5-2 at the Valley Park Arena and Recreation Centre.

The Meteors hit the ice again tonight for a game against the Port Colborne Pirates at the Fort Erie Leisureplex. Game time is 7:15 p.m.

HE'S NOT HERE! BAR & GRILL
Join us... We're Serving up a
ROAST BEEF DINNER
Tuesday, November 29th starting at 6:00 p.m.
Includes all the fixings
Only $10.95
365 Niagara Blvd., Fort Erie • 289-320-8222

Bricks & Bouquets

If you have a brick or bouquet send it to editorial@forterietimes.com or phone 905-871-3100, ext. 210 and leave a message

Brick
To a local bar owner and her employee, who refused us entry into her place of business because the bouncer doesn't know how to properly check ID. The way we were treated and spoken to by the employee was absolutely uncalled for. When I contacted the owner to inform her of this situation she was rude and when I mentioned under aged drinking in her bar she hung up on me. We try and keep local businesses alive by staying in town and this is the way we are treated.

Brick
To whoever broke into my house in the middle of the night, that money you took was rent and Christmas money. Most of the other stuff you took belonged to my kids. You have pretty much ensured they get a sub-par Christmas and they are now scared at night. I thought we lived in Fort Erie, not Toronto.

Bouquet
To regional councillor John Teal for his quick action on helping get an issue resolved. I'm very thankful.

Brick
To the person who ran into the front fender of my Mustang in the parking lot of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Hall last Friday. I didn't realize a fish fry would cost me over $400.

Bouquet
To everyone who has been attending Meteors games on Saturday nights. They are a local team that really needs the support of the local community.

Bouquet
To anyone who has made a donation of some kind to a local charity, that will benefit needy families during the holiday season.

THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6
(905) 871-1600 • Fax (905) 871-4022
www.forterie.on.ca
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE INFORMATION 905-871-1600
RADIO EMERGENCY INFORMATION
91.7 FM - 105.7 FM - 610 AM

FORT ERIE ONTARIO
Our Focus: Your Future

(1) NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON BEAVER CREEK MUNICIPAL DRAIN THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE NOVEMBER 2011

On Wednesday, November 30, 2011, the Town of Fort Erie will be holding a public meeting to discuss the status, design and next steps of the Beaver Creek Municipal Drain and Grass Pickerel Project.

All landowner's within this area should attend this public meeting or contact the Drainage Superintendent for more details.

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Public meeting will be held on

Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. local time in the Town of Fort Erie Council Chambers at Town Hall

Discussions on the construction, design and next steps will be provided to all landowner's in attendance to this meeting.

Enquiries may be directed to: Drainage Superintendent, Mr. Brett Ruck. at 905-871-1600, extension 2408.

SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

DODGE caravan Kids

THE BLACK FRIDAY EVENT

BLACK IS BACK.

2012 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

CANADA'S LONGEST-LASTING LINE OF PICKUPS™

$24,995•

CONSUMER DIGEST BEST BUY

5 STAR SAFETY

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NHTSA 5 Star for Side Impact‡

PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $9,250 CONSUMER CASH,* $500♦ BLACK FRIDAY BONUS BUCKS, FREIGHT, AIR TAX, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.+

2012 Ram 1500 Crew Cab SLT with SLT Plus Decor Group shown.§

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STEP UP TO THE 2012 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SLT 4X4

- HEMI® V8 power with V6 fuel economy♦
- Remote keyless entry
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$19 MORE BI-WEEKLY

2012 CANADIAN TRUCK KING CHALLENGE WINNER

GET $500 BLACK FRIDAY BONUS BUCKS.♦

+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

RamTruck.ca/Offers

GUTS · GLORY RAM

Wise customers read the fine print: •, *, ♦, †, § The 2012 Black Friday offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers from November 18 to November 25, 2011. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailers for complete details and conditions •$24,995 Purchase Price applies to 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) only and includes $9,250 Consumer Cash Discount and $500 Black Friday Bonus Bucks Offer. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on select 2011/2012 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. ♦The $500 Black Friday Bonus Bucks offer includes applicable taxes and is available on the retail purchase/lease of the following eligible vehicles between November 18 through November 25, 2011 at participating retailers: any new 2011/2012 Dodge Grand Caravan (excluding Cargo Van and Canada Value Package models), Dodge Journey (excluding Canada Value Package models), Ram 1500/2500/3500 (excluding Regular Cab and Cab & Chassis models), Chrysler 200 (excluding LX models), Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Avenger (excluding SE models). $500 Bonus Cash will be deducted from the negotiated purchase price after taxes or may be used, at customer's option, to reduce their first monthly payment or towards the purchase of Mopar accessories or service packages. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. †4.99% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) model to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. See your retailer for complete details. Example: 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) with a Purchase Price of $24,995 (including applicable Consumer Cash Discount) financed at 4.99% over 96 months with $0 down payment, equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $146 with a cost of borrowing of $5,371 and a total obligation of $30,366.31. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. §2012 Ram 1500 Crew Cab SLT with SLT Plus Decor Group shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount, $32,220. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. ‡Star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). ♦Based on 2012 EnerGuide full-size truck V8 to V6 fuel economy comparison. *SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. +Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer. ™Based on R. L. Polk Canada Inc. Canadian Vehicles in Operation data as of July 1, 2010 for model years 1987 – 2011. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ®The Best Buy Seal (or Best Buy) is a registered trademark of Best Buy Co., Inc. and is used under license. ©2011 FCA US LLC.

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